



Maricopa County

News Release

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Supervisor Mary Rose Wilcox, District 5, Receives Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *Living the Dream* Award

Seven Phoenix residents were honored for their commitment to creating a compassionate and socially just community at the recent 19th annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Awards Program and Breakfast, "Stand Up For Justice."

The Arizona Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee and the Phoenix Human Relations Commission recognized recipients of the Calvin C. Goode Lifetime Achievement award and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Living the Dream award during the breakfast. The event was sponsored by the Arizona Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Committee.

The Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Living the Dream Awards program recognizes six individuals who embody the ideas of Dr. King through their personal commitment to human relations and justice...

Mary Rose Wilcox, Maricopa County Board of Supervisors, District 5, has played a major role in Maricopa County embracing its diversity as an organization. Born in Superior and a fourth generation native from a pioneer Mexican-American family, Wilcox is the first Hispanic woman to serve on both the Phoenix City Council and the Maricopa County Board of Supervisors.

She has devoted her career to public service, championing the first Civil Rights Day in Maricopa County, leading efforts in the area of fair housing and creating services for the homeless and youth.

She led the county's efforts to create a homeless campus to centralize services for the homeless in downtown Phoenix. Wilcox has been a strong advocate for the AIDS community. She coordinated the disbursement of funds from the Ryan White Foundation that provided services to the AIDS community.

Wilcox was one of the original members of the neighborhood "fight back movement" and started a late night youth basketball program 15 years ago to help combat crime and gang involvement. She also is the founder of the city of Phoenix "Kool Kids" program that allows children to swim for free in various Phoenix public pools.

The other 2006 recipients of the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. *Living the Dream* Award are: "Mother" Lottie Childers, Imam Abdur-Rahim Shamsid Deen, the Rev. Benjamin N. Thomas, Dr. Matthew Whitaker and Ron Williams.